

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 5 of page 1 to read as follows:

*A1  
cancel*  
This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number ~~08/074,851~~ 09/074,851, now US Patent No. 6,321,384, having a filing date of May 8, 1998, entitled "Noise reduction in cable return paths", which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 08/347,573, filed on November 30, 1994, now abandoned.

Please amend the paragraph beginning line 11 of page 15 to read as follows:

*A2  
cancel*  
FIG. 9 illustrates an exemplary time/frequency map 900. In the exemplary case of FIG. 9, the ingress events are monitored over a pre-determined period of time and the results of the monitoring are represented in a matrix format on the map 900. As shown in FIG. 9, the time frames ( $N$  time frames) are tracked on the horizontal axis and the various frequency bands ( $K$  frequency bands) are tracked on the vertical axis. In this exemplary case each of the frequency bands and each of the time frames has a predetermined width.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 15 to read as follows:

*A3  
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For each time frame, the PSD of the signal is obtained and the frequency bands having a signal power above the detection threshold are given an integer value 1. The presence of a "1" indicates the detection of a signal above the detection threshold. Over a window of  $M$  time frames a map as shown in FIG. 9 can be obtained. Furthermore, a cumulative sum 920 over the  $K$  frequency bands at time frame  $n$  ( $CSF_n$ ) may be computed. Additionally, a cumulative sum 910 over the  $N$  time frames at frequency band  $k$  ( $CST_k$ ) may also be computed. The  $CSF_n$  and  $CST_k$  may then be used to distinguish a narrowband ingress event from a wideband ingress event. In particular, a narrowband ingress event is declared when the  $CST_k$  exceeds a threshold, for example,  $S_{nb}$  and, a wideband ingress event is declared when  $CSF_n$  exceeds a threshold, for example,  $S_{wb}$ . The principles of the present invention are flexible and different values of threshold may

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be used. A user may select suitable threshold values based on the application/system in use.